

I 
**URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL
OF BEACONSFIELD**

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

**MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH**

and

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the year 1966

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF BEACONSFIELD

A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and

Public Health Inspector

for the Year 1966



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URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF BEACONSFIELD

Chairman of the Council: Mr. D.R. Mullis.
Vice-Chairman of the Council: Mr. J. Dill Smith.

Public Health Committee

Chairman: Mr. N.K.S. Bramer.
Vice-Chairman: Mr. T.A. McGill.

Councillors: Mr. R.F. Forward.
Mrs. G.E. Fallows.
Mr. G.H.D.R. Greene.
Mr. J.L. Kirkconel.
Mr. O.S. Puckle.
Mr. A.E. Tilbury.
Mrs. P.A. Walker.
Mr. S.N. Whitehead.
Mrs. H.N. Williamson.

Public Health Staff:

Medical Officer of Health: B.H. Burne, M.R.C.S. (Eng.) L.R.C.P. (Lond.
D.P.H.)

The Medical Officer of Health is also Medical Officer of Health for Amersham Rural District Council, Chesham Urban District Council, Deputy Divisional Schools Medical Officer, and Assistant County Medical Officer.

Public Health Inspector: Mr. P.J. Bunce, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.
(Certified Meat and Food Inspector)

Clerical Staff:

Shorthand/Typist: Miss. C. Wylezuch.

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF BEACONSFIELD

TeL: Beaconsfield 5602

Public Health Department,
Council Hall,
BEACONSFIELD,
Bucks.

August 1967.

To the Chairmen and Councillors of Amersham R.D.C.
Chesham and Beaconsfield U.D.Cs.

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen.

As I mentioned in my report last year, I propose to include in this year's report a review of the work of the Divisional School Health Service. Health is indivisible, especially in the field of Infectious Diseases. There is great overlap in the work carried out in the District Public Health Department and the work carried out by the School Medical Officers and School nurses. In fact, as I am responsible for both, it seems incongruous to have the different aspects of this work done at different offices.

As an example of the close integration which is needed and which was carried out during the year, Infective Hepatitis (commonly called "yellow jaundice") was made notifiable by the Ministry of Health at the request of both Amersham and Chesham Districts. This new regulation came into force on the 1st September and, simultaneously, a small outbreak of Infective Hepatitis occurred in one of the Chesham County Primary Schools. There were 7 cases and the opportunity was taken to carry out prophylactic measures to protect the children in the school. Serum (gamma globulin) was given on the 26th October to 93 of the 148 children exposed to infection. The Public Health Laboratory service made an assessment of the result, but only one case of Jaundice occurred (in an unprotected case). A full report of this will appear in the Principal School Medical Officer's report.

Another example was the notification by the Chest Physician to the Amersham District of a case of open Tuberculosis in a member of the staff at a Chalfont St. Peter School. This required the skin-testing of all the children at the school, and subsequent X-ray of members of the staff and children who reacted to the skin test. It was fortuitous that the Mobile Mass Radiography Unit had already been arranged to visit Chesham during the week before Christmas. This had been arranged as the number of immigrants from Asia and the West Indies had risen of recent years. The results of this mass screening will be issued when they are available, but there appeared to be no more than the usual rate of chance infection of the school children examined.

As an example of a primary school medical problem, the Educational Welfare Officers, the Head Teachers and the General Practitioners have shown an increasing interest in cases of "School Refusal". These are children who, for social or emotional reasons, either fail to attend school regularly or do not attend at all, but who are not aggressive or anti-social and not, therefore, truants. I have summarised my initial findings regarding this in a Paper which was published in "The Medical Officer".

From the beginning of 1966, an enuresis alarm service has been in operation for the training of children who wet the bed beyond the usual age. I have given the results of the first year in a letter to General Practitioners from whom cases are referred, but the success rates have been higher than recorded in similar schemes and the parents have expressed gratitude. I believe that this is an aspect of preventive medicine which may stop secondary emotional and social problems at a later age. It is well-known that anti-social behaviour is liable to follow if children are not given help. This is primarily prevention and something that only Public Health can carry out and one of the reasons why public health came into being. A leaflet has been produced on the subject for the use of parents.

Another venture which took place during the year was the completion of a Clean Food Handbook by the Officers of the Amersham and Beaconsfield Councils and County School Meals Service. Copies will be widely distributed to school canteens, shops, hotels, and other eating establishments in the two districts. It is hoped that on a future occasion Chesham might be included.

During the year it was accepted by Chesham Council, as owners of a water undertaking, that they should fluoridate the water supply to much of the town. This measure received the financial support of the County Council under Section 28 of the National Health Service Act. Fluoridation of water is a preventive measure which enables growing children to form normal disease-resistant tooth enamel, but their teeth are not only resistant to dental decay, but are also brilliant, lustrous and aesthetically pleasing.

Unfortunately a number of well-meaning but misguided people were alarmed at the prospect of this health measure but, fortunately, as fears have been displaced by understanding, less is heard of these. I am sure that if many of the health-conscious individuals in the community would place their zeal behind the more health-promoting measures of the various public health authorities, we could work together and really make the public as a whole much more health-conscious.

The actual date of fluoridation of the water supply is not yet known but the matter is in the hands of the Engineer and opportunity will be taken during 1968 to teach something of public health medicine and public health dentistry to a part of 4th year dental students from the Royal Dental Hospital, London. The students will be spending a day in Chesham and the locality. One could wish that these students were to be medical students.

Like many other places in the country, Amersham, Chesham and Beaconsfield have all three considered the possibility of establishing a Health Centre. Initial investigations at Beaconsfield revealed that there is no great interest among General Practitioners, many had already committed themselves to practice premises and offered little support to the idea of a Health Centre. In Chesham, in January we had a meeting with all the General Practitioners of the town and it was decided, after the meeting, that the district council should ask the County Health Authority to establish a comprehensive health centre in the centre of Chesham, a site being available. In view of the absence of certain clinical facilities at Chesham Cottage Hospital, the Health Authority was following up this request. The comments of the Regional Hospital Board have been invited. A proposal for a Health Centre in Amersham had received favourable initial consideration at the time of the preparation of this report.

If they become recognised centres for practice of preventive and communicative medicine, these two health centres will provide the material beginning to a re-orientated medical practice, the traditional divisions between the public health medical officers and general practitioners will disappear and there will be a strong force to attract and encourage the promotion of the highest levels of individual and community well-being.

Yours sincerely,

B.H. Burne.

ARRANGEMENT OF REPORT

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SECTION I

GENERAL AND VITAL STATISTICS

1. General.

| | | |
|---|----------|------|
| Population (mid-year) | 11,460 | |
| Area (acres of district) | 5,314 | |
| No. of habitable houses (per rate book) as at | 1.1.67 | 3360 |
| Rateable Value of area at 1st April 1966 | £707,241 | |
| Product of penny rate (1965/66) | £ 2,852 | |

2. Vital Statistics

| (a) <u>Live Births:</u> | <u>Males</u> | <u>Females</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|-------------------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|
| Legitimate | 67 | 79 | 146 |
| Illegitimate | 3 | 6 | 9 |
| Total Live Births | 70 | 85 | 155 |

| | |
|--|------|
| Illegitimate live births | |
| per cent of total live births | 5.8 |
| Live birth rate per 1,000 population | 13.5 |
| Comparability factor | .99 |
| Corrected birth rate | 13.4 |

| | |
|--|-----|
| (b) Still-birth rate per 1,000 live and still-births | |
| Total live and still births | 156 |

(c) Deaths

| | |
|--|------|
| Infants deaths | 3 |
| Infants mortality rate per 1,000 live births | 19.4 |
| Neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births | 19.4 |
| Maternal deaths (including abortion) | - |
| Death rate per 1,000 population | 9.7 |
| Comparability factor | 1.11 |
| Corrected death rate per 1,000 population | 10.8 |

The corrected birth and death rates are those which are obtained when the crude local rates are adjusted to make allowance for the way in which the sex and age distribution of the local population differ from that of England and Wales. The corrected rates are comparable with the crude rates for England and Wales and the corresponding corrected rates for any other area.

Causes of Death.

As will be seen from the following table, the two principal causes of death were diseases of the heart and circulation, which caused 50.5% of the deaths and cancer which caused 26.1%.

| <u>Disease</u> | <u>MALES</u> | <u>FEMALES</u> | <u>TOTAL</u> |
|--|--------------|----------------|-----------------|
| 1. Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| 2. Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus | 5 | 3 | 8 |
| 3. Malignant Neoplasm, Breast | - | 4 | 4 |
| 4. Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus | - | 3 | 3 |
| 5. Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms | 6 | 6 | 12 |
| 6. Diabetes | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| 7. Vascular Lesions of Nervous System | 3 | 10 | 13 |
| 8. Coronary Disease, Angina | 12 | 18 | 30 |
| 9. Hypertension with Heart Disease | - | 1 | 1 |
| 10. Other Heart Disease | 2 | 3 | 5 |
| 11. Other Circulatory Disease | 4 | 3 | 7 |
| 12. Pneumonia | - | 2 | 2 |
| 13. Bronchitis | 1 | 3 | 4 |
| 14. Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea | 1 | - | 1 |
| 15. Hyperplasia of Prostate | 2 | - | 2 |
| 16. Other Defined and Ill-Defined Diseases | 4 | 6 | 10 |
| 17. Motor vehicle accidents | 1 | - | 1 |
| 18. All other accidents | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| 19. Suicide | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| | <hr/> 45 | <hr/> 66 | <hr/> 111 <hr/> |

COUNTY OF BUCKINGHAM

POPULATIONS, BIRTH AND MORTALITY RATES FOR THE YEAR 1966

| District | Population Census 1961 | Reg. Gen. Estimated pop. Mid-1966 | Crude Birth rate per 1,000 population | Crude Death rate per 1,000 population | Tuberculosis death rate per 1,000 population | Infant mortality rate per 1,000 births | Neo-Natal mortality rate per 1,000 births | Maternal mortality per 1,000 stillbirths |
|-------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|--|---|--|
| Urban | | | | | | | | |
| Aylesbury | 27,923 | 34,380 | 23.9 (821) | 8.9 (307) | - (-) | 17.1 (14) | 14.6 (12) | - (-) |
| Beaconsfield | 10,013 | 11,450 | 13.5 (155) | 9.7 (111) | - (-) | 19.4 (3) | 19.4 (3) | - (-) |
| Bletchley | 17,095 | 23,520 | 25.8 (607) | 6.7 (158) | - (-) | 21.4 (13) | 13.2 (8) | - (-) |
| Buckingham | 4,379 | 4,810 | 15.4 (74) | 10.6 (51) | - (-) | 27.0 (2) | 27.0 (2) | - (-) |
| Chesham | 15,297 | 19,580 | 24.8 (489) | 8.7 (172) | - (-) | 10.2 (5) | 6.1 (3) | 2.02 (1) |
| Eton | 3,894 | 5,303 | 10.9 (58) | 5.1 (27) | 0.189 (1) | 34.5 (2) | 34.5 (2) | - (-) |
| High Wycombe | 49,981 | 55,170 | 21.0 (1171) | 8.3 (458) | 0.018 (1) | 9.4 (1) | 7.7 (9) | - (-) |
| Marlow | 8,724 | 9,990 | 21.3 (213) | 10.0 (100) | 0.100 (1) | 14.1 (3) | 4.7 (1) | - (-) |
| Newport | 4,743 | 5,470 | 16.8 (92) | 20.3 (111) | - (-) | 21.7 (2) | 10.9 (1) | - (-) |
| Pagnell | | | | | | | | |
| Slough | 80,751 | 85,690 | 18.8 (1611) | 8.3 (713) | 0.047 (4) | 14.9 (24) | 13.0 (21) | - (-) |
| Wolverton | 13,113 | 13,430 | 18.5 (249) | 13.0 (175) | - (-) | 15.1 (4) | 12.0 (3) | - (-) |
| TOTAL URBAN | 241,082 | 268,900 | 20.6 (540) | 8.9 (2383) | 0.026 (7) | 15.0 (83) | 11.7 (65) | 0.18 (1) |
| TOTAL COUNTY | 488,233 | 542,020 | 18.9 (1263) | 9.2 (4976) | 0.031 (17) | 15.9 (163) | 12,2 (125) | 0.10 (1) |
| England and Wales | 46,071,604 | 48,075,300 | 17.7 | 11.7 | # | 19.0 | 12.9 | # |

NOTE: In view of the small numbers in which some of the rates quoted are based, the actual numbers are given in parentheses for the purpose of clearer comparison.

Education Act 1944.
School Health Services.

The School Health Services are administered from the
Divisional Education Office, Thame House, Castle Street,
High Wycombe.

SECTION II

HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

1. Hospital Services

Beaconsfield is just within the area of the Windsor Group Management Committee of the North-West Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board.

Hospital available for the District in the Windsor Group Management Committee Area:-

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Tuberculosis. | Berks and Bucks Joint Sanatorium, Peppard Common. |
| General. | King Edward VII Hospital, Windsor, Maidenhead Hospital: Canadian Red Cross Hospital, Taplow, Bucks: Wexham Park Hospital, Wexham, Nr. Slough, Denham and Langley Cottage Hospital, Iver. Chalfonts and Gerrards Cross Cottage Hospital, Chalfont St. Peter. |
| Infectious Diseases | Maidenhead Isolation Hospital. |
| Maternity. | Canadian Red Cross Hospital: Collinswood Maternity, Upton Maternity and Princess Christian Maternity Hospitals. |
| Hospitals for the Sub-normal | Church Hill House, Easthampstead, Bracknell, Berks: Clarefiled Court, Nr. Maidenhead, and Binfield Park, Binfield, Berks. |
| Mental Hospital. | St. Bernards Hospital, Southall, Middx. |
| Psychiatric Out-patient sessions. | King Edward VII Hospital, Wexham Park Hospital and Maidenhead Hospital. |

The Boundaries of the district flank those of the adjoining Oxford Hospital Region and many patients are referred to hospitals in that area.

2. Laboratory Services

Bacteriological laboratory facilities are provided by the Public Health Laboratories at Oxford and Luton.

Samples of water and sewage effluent for chemical analysis are sent to the Public Analyst, Southwark Borough Council.

3. Nursing in the Home and Midwifery Service.

The following Nurse Midwives practised in the Town during the year as follows:-

Miss G.I. Snell S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N.
Miss M. Towers S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N.

Their address is: Nurses' Home, Candlemas Mead, Beaconsfield.
Telephone: Beaconsfield 3954.

Miss M.R. Taylor, S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N.
(Area Relief District Nurse/Midwife)

Address: 3 "The Ferns", London End, Beaconsfield.

4. Health Visitors.

The following Health Visitors are based in the Council Offices at Beaconsfield and cover Beaconsfield Old, New Town and Holtspur.

Mrs. P.J. Stickley S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.
Miss E.A. Regan S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.

Covering Wooburn Common are: Miss H. Hayler S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. and Miss P.A. Rhodes S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. They are based at Victoria Road, Marlow.

5. Child Welfare Centres.

| | <u>LOCATION</u> | <u>SESSION</u> | <u>M.O. ATTENDS</u> |
|----------------------|-------------------------------|--|----------------------------|
| (a) Beaconsfield | The Old Rectory | 1st. & 3rd Fri. 2 p.m. each month. | 1st. session |
| (b) Holtspur | St. Thomas's Church Hall. | 1st & 3rd Tues. 2 p.m. each month. | 3rd Tuesday each month. |
| (c) New Beaconsfield | Youth Centre Maxwell Road. | 2nd & 4th Fri. 2 p.m. each month. | 1st. sesion. |

6. Ambulance Service.

This service is provided by the County Council. The Beaconsfield area is covered by the High Wycombe Station, West End Street, High Wycombe. (Telephone Number: High Wycombe 21871).

SECTION III

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948/51

Section 47

Under this Section when persons (a) are suffering from grave chronic disease or, being aged, infirm or physically incapacitated, are living in insanitary conditions, and (b) are unable to devote to themselves, and are not receiving from other persons, proper care and attention, the Local Authority may apply to a court of summary jurisdiction for an Order to remove the person to a suitable place. It has not been necessary to take any action under this Section during the year.

Section 50

Under this Section the District Council has the duty to arrange for the burial of any person who has died in their area, if no suitable arrangements for the disposal of the body are being made. There has been no cause for any action under this Section.

SECTION IV

PREVALENCE OF CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Apart for an epidemic of measles, the district was comparatively free from notifiable infectious disease during the year.

| <u>DISEASES</u> | <u>NUMBER OF CASES</u> | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------|------|------|
| | 1966 | 1965 | 1964 |
| Measles | 148 | 169 | 311 |
| Puerperal Pyrexia | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Scarlet Fever | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Whooping Cough | 3 | 2 | 4 |
| Tuberculosis | 4 | 6 | 0 |
| Meningococcal Infection | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Food Poisoning | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Dysentery | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Erysipelas | 1 | 0 | 0 |

SECTION V

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

General Administration.

Day-to-day inspections of houses, shops and factories have been carried out through the year. The following is a summary of the visits paid during the year ended the 31st December 1966.

General Sanitation.

| | |
|--|-----|
| Water Supply | 4 |
| Drainage | 80 |
| Tents, Vans and Sheds | 71 |
| Outworkers | 2 |
| Factories and Workshops | 7 |
| Licensed Premises | 14 |
| Refuse Collection and Disposal | 19 |
| Rats and Mice | 310 |
| Atmospheric Pollution | 21 |
| Schools | 5 |
| Public Conveniences | 2 |
| Visits to filthy and Verminuous Premises | 18 |
| Miscellaneous | 92 |

Housing.

| | |
|--|----|
| Public Health Act: No. of houses inspected | 20 |
| Public Health Act: No. of visits paid | 15 |
| Housing Act: No. of houses inspected | 46 |
| Housing Act: No. of visits paid | 29 |
| Overcrowding: No. of houses inspected | 1 |
| Overcrowding: No. of visits paid | 6 |
| Improvement Grant Inspections | 69 |
| Improvement Area Inspections | 20 |
| Miscellaneous | 18 |

Infectious Diseases.

| | |
|---|----|
| Visits following notifications of Infectious Diseases ... | 11 |
|---|----|

Noise Nuisance.

| | |
|--|---|
| Visits following notifications of nuisance | 2 |
|--|---|

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises.

| | |
|--------------|-----|
| Visits | 164 |
|--------------|-----|

Visits to Food Premises.

| | |
|-------------------------------------|----|
| Butchers | 6 |
| Canteens | 5 |
| Fishmongers and Poulterers | 2 |
| Grocers | 5 |
| Greengrocers and Fruiterers | 5 |
| Dairies and Milk Distributors | 3 |
| Food Preparing Premises | 12 |
| Restaurants | 14 |
| Bakehouses | 7 |

Service of Notices.

| | |
|--|----|
| No. of informal notices (all types) served during 1966 | 31 |
| No. of informal notices complied with | 29 |
| No. of statutory notices served during 1966 | 1 |
| No. of statutory notices complied with | 1 |

1. Water Supply.

There is a piped water supply to the whole of the Urban District. The supply is provided by the Rickmansworth and Uxbridge Valley Water Company and the Bucks Water Board. The former serves the Old and the New Towns and the latter Holtspur and District.

The water contains a high degree of temporary hardness and therefore no problems from plumbo-solvency occur. An adequate supply has been maintained throughout the district during the year. The water samples sent for Bacteriological Examination proved to be satisfactory.

2. Drainage and Sewerage.

Nearly the whole of the district is connected to one of the two sewerage systems. The Old Town is sewered to a modified broad irrigation works at Hedgerley Lane and the New Town and Holtspur areas are sewered to the disposal works off Riding Lane at Holtspur.

The majority of the cesspools remaining are for premises which are outlying and these are emptied free, within 48 hours of receiving notification.

It has for several years been increasingly obvious that major works would be required to maintain an efficient drainage and sewerage system. The broad irrigation system at Hedgerley has been long outdated and the small Holtspur plant was becoming more and more difficult to manage because the quantity of effluent arriving there was so much more than that for which the works were designed.

At the beginning of October contractors started work on the Council's new sewerage scheme, which entails diverting both foul and surface water sewage from the whole of the district into the Wye Valley trunk sewers. The work is programmed for completion in April 1968.

3. Collection and Disposal of Refuse.

A weekly collection of refuse has been maintained to all premises throughout the district. In addition special collections of bulky household waste have been made, free of charge, where a request has been received.

Regular extra weekly collections are made at premises where putrescible refuse accumulates quickly i.e. cafes, restaurants, fish mongers and butchers. There is a small annual charge for this service.

All refuse is taken to a private tip just outside the Beaconsfield Urban District and is being used as back-filling to a sand and gravel pit.

During the first part of the year paper was salvaged, baled and sold as mixed paper to a local mill. However the demand for mixed paper reduced to such an extent that separate collection became uneconomic. In the circumstances the Council decided to cease paper salvage.

Some metal is however still collected and sold to a local scrap metal merchant.

13 informal notices were served on various premises asking for renewal of defective dustbins.

4. Housing.

The number of properties, shown below, controlled by the Council at the end of December, 1966, was 798 as compared with 758 at December, 1965.

| <u>Housing Accommodation:</u> | <u>December 1966</u> | <u>December 1965</u> |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Pre-war Council Houses & Flats | 224 | 224 |
| Post-war Council Houses & Flats | <u>574</u> | <u>534</u> |
| | <u>798</u> | <u>758</u> |

Since the war, the Council have made every effort to provide units of varied accommodation for all needs, as follows:-

| | |
|---|-----|
| 4 Bedroom (Parlour) Type Houses | 4 |
| 4 Bedroom (Maisonettes) Type Houses | 2 |
| 3 Bedroom (Parlour) Type Houses | 20 |
| 3 Bedroom (non-Parlour) Type Houses | 220 |
| 3 Bedroom (Maisonettes) Type Houses | 40 |
| 2 Bedroom (non-Parlour) Type Houses | 130 |
| Bungalows | 15 |
| Flats | 143 |

| <u>Year</u> | <u>Private Development.</u> <u>No. of Housing Units</u> | <u>Council Development</u> <u>No. of Housing Units</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|-------------|--|---|--------------|
| 1957 | 89 | 3 | 92 |
| 1958 | 124 | 55 | 179 |
| 1959 | 87 | 8 | 95 |
| 1960 | 136 | 8 | 144 |
| 1961 | 105 | 8 | 113 |
| 1962 | 117 | 31 | 148 |
| 1963 | 54 | 2 | 56 |
| 1964 | 73 | 30 | 103 |
| 1965 | 94 | 0 | 94 |
| 1966 | 61 | 40 | 101 |
| Total | <u>940</u> | <u>185</u> | <u>1125</u> |

houses built in
last 10 years.

A scheme for 40 old peoples flatlets is under construction and is due for completion in September 1967.

5. Standard Improvement Grants.

8 Applications were received during the year. 3 were completed and the following amenities provided:

| | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Water Closets | 3 |
| Washbasins | 3 |
| Bath | 3 |
| Hot Water System | 3 |
| Ventilated Food Cupboards | 3 |

The total grant paid on the three completed properties was £465-0-0.

Discretionary Improvement Grants.

3 discretionary improvement grants were given in 1966 all were completed and a total of £490-1-8 was paid.

6. Housing Act 1957.

The following is a summary of day-to-day complaints of housing defects dealt with during the course of the year by informal action:-

| | |
|---|---|
| Repairs to chimney stacks | 4 |
| Repairs to gutters | 3 |
| Repairs to roofs (dampness abated) | 5 |
| Repairs to drains (including cesspools) | 4 |
| Repairs to window frames | 2 |
| Repairs to water closets | 3 |
| Repairs to wall (dampness abated) | 4 |
| Repairs to plaster | 3 |
| Repairs to floors | 6 |
| Renewal of Electrical Installation | 1 |

7. Slum Clearance.

The rehousing of tenants in the eight houses included in a small slum clearance area has been proceeding. When this is complete and the existing cottages demolished it is hoped to reuse the site by building some accommodation for elderly persons.

8. Caravan Sites & Control of Development Act 1960.

At the end of the year the number of current site licences under this Act was 5. These covered a total of 22 occupied caravans.

9. Rodent Control.

Below is a summary of the number of rodent infestations dealt with during the year.

Number of premises inspected for rats and mice
(after notification of infestation) = 191

Number of premises inspected for rats and mice
(whilst attending to other matters) = 109

Number of infestations cleared. = 88

10. Wasps.

There seems to have been an abundance of wasps in 1966 and the large number of requests received for assistance in destroying them prompted the Council to make a charge for the service. A standard charge of £1-0-0 per nest being agreed upon.

A total of 115 visits were made and 53 nests destroyed. £32-0-0 was collected after the decision to make a charge.

SECTION VI

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1955.

1. Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations 1959.

The Bucks County Council, as the Food and Drugs Authority, sample milk produced in the district. These samples are sent for Bacteriological Examination, primarily for Tubercle Bacilli. The examination also, however, reveals the presence of Brucella organisms. When such organisms are isolated, the District Medical Officer of Health is informed. No such reports were received.

2. Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955.

Routine inspections of the premises subject to the above Regulations have been carried out, and where necessary, the owners have been asked to make alterations or additions.

3. Food Inspection.

The following foodstuffs were voluntarily surrendered as unfit for human consumption during the year.

| <u>Description.</u> | <u>CWTS.</u> | <u>LBS.</u> |
|------------------------------------|--------------|------------------|
| Meat at retail shops | 1 | 87 |
| Cooked meat and meat products..... | 0 | 37 |
| Canned meats | 0 | 9 |
| Fish | 0 | 45 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| Vegetables and fruit | 1 | 19 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| Other foods | 0 | 67 |
| TOTAL | 4 | 41 |

A number of complaints have been received regarding foreign material in food, including a cleaning brush bristle in a peppermint and a cork in a bottle of beer of the variety which is always sealed with a metal cap. All of the complaints were thoroughly investigated, and though the Council decided not to prosecute in any instance several warning letters were sent where and when appropriate.

4. Food and Drugs Act, 1955. Section 16.

There are now 36 shops selling ice-cream within the district, only pre-wrapped ice-cream being sold.

SECTION VII

1. Pet Animals Act, 1951.

There are no pet animal shops within the district.

2. Game Act, 1831.

Number of Game Licences issued:- 7

3. Petroleum (Regulation) Acts, 1928 and 1936.

Number of licences renewed:- 14

A total of 21 inspections were made under the Regulations.

4. Rag, Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951.

Number of premises registered:- 1

5. Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963.

Inspections and work under the Act have been progressing without undue difficulty. It has been found that employers generally have been very willing to co-operate.

2 minor accidents were reported.

It has been noticed that even where employees are aware that contraventions of the Act exist they are loathe to report them either through loyalty to their employer or because they fear that their job may be in jeopardy.

B.H. Burne.

Medical Officer of Health

P.J. Bunce.

Public Health Inspector

Registrations and General Inspections

| Class of Premises. | No. of premises registered during the year. | Total No. of registered premises at end of year. | No. of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year. |
|--|---|--|--|
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) |
| Offices. | 3 | 51 | 40 |
| Retail shops. | 9 | 105 | 59 |
| Wholesale shops, warehouses. | - | 1 | - |
| Catering establishments open to the public, canteens | 1 | 19 | 19 |
| Fuel storage depots. | - | 4 | 2 |

Analysis of persons Employed in Registered Premises by Workplace

| Class of Workplace (1) | Number of persons employed (2) |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| Offices. | 347 |
| Retail Shops. | 552 |
| Wholesale departments, warehouses. | 1 |
| Catering establishments open to the public. | 128 |
| Canteens. | 4 |
| Fuel storage depots. | 7 |
| TOTAL | 1039 |
| Total Males. | 441 |
| Total Females | 598 |

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 to 1961

. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by the Public Health Inspector).

| PREMISES (1) | No. ON REGISTER (2) | NUMBER OF | | |
|---|-------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| | | INSPECTIONS (3) | WRITTEN NOTICES (4) | OCCUPIERS PROSECUTIONS (5) |
| (i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities. | 3 | 1 | NIL | NIL |
| (ii) Factories not included in (1) which Sect. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority. | 40 | 6 | NIL | NIL |
| (iii) Other premises in which Sect. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises) | NIL | NIL | NIL | NIL |
| TOTAL | 43 | 7 | NIL | NIL |

(Section 110 and 111)

| <u>NATURE OF WORK</u> | <u>SECTION 110</u> | | | <u>SECTION 111</u> | | |
|--|--|---|---|--|----------------|--------------|
| | No. of outworkers in August list required by Section 110 (1) (c) | No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council | No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists | No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises | Notices served | Prosecutions |
| Wearing apparel, making, etc., cleaning and washing. | 3 (2) | - (3) | - (4) | - (5) | - (6) | - (7) |
| Lace and lace curtains and nets. | 2 | - | - | - | - | - |
| TOTAL | 5 | - | - | - | - | - |

